

Antioch Church housed the first school for black citizens in Decatur. Later, the church was blessed by a faithful servant named Reverend Dr. Turner who led the congregation from 1965 until his death in 1995. During the 30 years of his service, Reverend Turner established a free food bank and clothing room, which continue to serve needy families in the community today. Reverend Turner also opened a local extension of the United Theological Seminary through which many ministers in Decatur and in neighboring cities earned their bachelor's and master's degrees in theology.

I am deeply honored to represent the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church and congratulate its congregation for 150 years of service. The strong faith and history of Antioch will no doubt continue to serve the Decatur community for another 150 years, and remind us of the values of diversity and public service upon which it was established.

CONGRATULATING SANTA CLARA
UNIVERSITY'S SOLAR DECATHLON TEAM

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Santa Clara University's Solar Decathlon Team for placing third in the Department of Energy's 2007 International Solar Decathlon. I am joined by my colleague the Honorable ZOE LOFGREN, a graduate of Santa Clara University, in congratulating the students, administration, and sponsors for their tremendous accomplishments.

In this competition, university teams were challenged to design, build, and operate an energy-efficient and aesthetically-pleasing home powered by solar energy alone.

Santa Clara University was selected as one of just 20 international competitors in the 2007 Solar Decathlon, and was the only school west of the Rockies chosen to compete. Even more impressive was that Santa Clara, a school of approximately 4,500 students, competed against schools like MIT, Carnegie Mellon, and Georgia Tech, making them by far the smallest school in the Decathlon and the only competitor without a school or department of architecture.

In addition to placing third overall, they were one of five teams to score a perfect 100 points in the Hot Water contest and one of seven teams to score a perfect 100 points in the Energy Balance contest. Santa Clara's home boasted a variety of unique features that are both sustainable and energy-efficient, including the first bamboo I-beams in the United States and insulation made from recycled blue jeans.

We are extremely proud of the accomplishments of the Santa Clara University's Solar Decathlon Team and the generous support provided by their industrial sponsors. Their project highlights the technology and innovation characteristic of Silicon Valley.

On behalf of Representative LOFGREN and myself, congratulations to Santa Clara University's Solar Decathlon Team for placing third in this international competition and for your strong representation of the strengths of the Silicon Valley and the State of California.

RECOGNIZING RACHEL SAVAGEAU

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Rachel Savageau of Shrewsbury, MA. A talented and intelligent young woman, Rachel has been named one of the recipients for the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Youth Award from the Shrewsbury Democratic Town Committee.

A 2007 graduate of Shrewsbury High School, Rachel proved to be an exceptional young woman during her 4 years there. Rachel helped found the Young Democrats of Shrewsbury High School and served as secretary for all four years of her high school career. She was also a member of her school's Political Action Committee and a GSA leader. Currently a political science major at UMASS Boston, she has started a Young Democrats group there and is interning for the League of Women Voters.

Rachel's active role in numerous groups makes her the perfect recipient for this award. Our country's future is invested in young people like Rachel and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" MCKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mr. MCKEON. Madam Speaker, due to the ongoing wildfires in Southern California, and specifically those in the 25th District of California, I was unable to vote on the following measures. Please enter into the record this personal explanation for my absence on the following rollcall votes:

Rollcall No. 986—On Motion to Table the Resolution, which I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall No. 987—Joshua Omvig Veterans Suicide Prevention Act, which I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 988—Charlie Norwood Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, which I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 989—Condemning the actions of September 7, 2007, resulting in damage to the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial.

Rollcall No. 990—Providing for consideration of H.R. 1011, which I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall No. 991—Providing for consideration of H.R. 1483, which I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall No. 992—Providing for consideration of H.R. 1483, which I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall No. 993—Violent Radicalization and Homegrown Terrorism Prevention Act of 2007, which I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I was on a leave of absence on October 24,

2007 due to the San Diego wildfires. The following list describes how I would have voted had I been in attendance.

Rollcall No. 995: Motion to Recommit with Instructions on Celebrating America's Heritage Act, H.R. 1483—"yea."

Rollcall No. 996: Passage of Celebrating America's Heritage Act, H.R. 1483—"yea."

Rollcall No. 997: Previous Question on the Rule providing consideration of Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, H.R. 505—"yea."

Rollcall No. 998: Providing consideration of Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, H.R. 505—"yea."

Rollcall No. 999: Motion to Recommit with Instructions on Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, H.R. 505—"nay."

Rollcall No. 1000: Passage of Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, H.R. 505—"yea."

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO REINSTATE CERTAIN FEDERAL BENEFITS TO CITIZENS OF THE FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mrs. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleague, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, in introducing a bill to reinstate certain Federal benefits to citizens of the Freely Associated States, FAS.

This bill is a companion measure to S. 1676, introduced earlier this year by Senators AKAKA and INOUE, which provides eligibility for non-emergency Medicaid, Food Stamps, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, TANF, and Supplemental Security Income, SSI, to FAS citizens residing in the United States.

Citizens from the FAS are from the Republic of the Marshall Islands RMI, Federated States of Micronesia, FSM, and the Republic of Palau, which are jurisdictions that have a unique political relationship with the United States. The Compact of Free Association established these nations as sovereign States responsible for their own foreign policies. However, the FAS remain dependent upon the United States for military protection and economic assistance.

Under the Compact, the United States has the right to reject the strategic use of, or military access to, the FAS by other countries. This right is often referred to as the "right of strategic denial." In addition, the U.S. may block FAS Government policies that it deems inconsistent with its duty to defend the FAS, which is referred to as the "defense veto." The Compact also states that the United States has exclusive military base rights in the FAS.

In exchange for these prerogatives, the U.S. is required to support the FAS economically, with the goal of producing self-sufficiency, and FAS citizens are allowed free entry into the United States as non-immigrants for the purposes of education, medical treatment, and employment. Because of this ability to travel within the United States as a non-immigrant, many FAS citizens have since migrated to the State of Hawaii.